

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 30 2004

PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the following papers are being facsimile  
transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office  
at (703) 872-9306 on 12/30/2004

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Karen Moir

.....  
**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**  
.....

Applicant: Schuler et al.

Applicant's Ref: 0051.00

Application No: 09/731,316

Filed: December 6, 2000

Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR  
TREATING PACKAGED POWDERS

Examiner: Mendoza, Michael G.

Group Art Unit: 3761

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment and Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 2, 2003. A Notice of Appeal was timely filed on June 2, 2004 with a three month extension of time. The present response is being filed within six months of the Notice of Appeal and is accompanied with a request for a four month extension of time. The present amendment is being filed in accordance with revised rule 37 CFR 1.121. Thus, marked-up amendments to the claims and/or specification are provided and no clean versions of the amendments are provided.